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SUMMARY

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FAR EAST	
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Vietnamese Government reportedly bankrupt:	·
Vietnamese Premier Huu, at a cabinet meeting announced the bankruptcy of his government and its consequent inability to meet civil and military expenses for March 1952	25X1 25X1
Comment: Despite the urging of French and American officials, the Vietnamese Government has never prepared a budget, and accurate assessment of its fiscal status is therefore impossible.	20/(1
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Since its creation the Vietnamese Government has been obliged to resort to deficit financing which has been covered regularly by advances from the French Treasury. However, Bao Dai said on 28 January that the French had not promised to meet expected deficits in 1952 arising from military expenditures and had been threatening to cease other financial aid.

Chief of US military mission reviews Tonkin military situation.

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25X1A	The Chief of the US military mission in Indochina, General Brink, who has just returned from Hanoi, estimates that the "strictly military" situation in Tonkin is not as alarming as has been pictured by some observers. He states, however, that the political situation and the loyalty of the population are uncertain and that this could well neutralize the military effort.
:	General Brink believes that the Tonkin delta can be defended, albeit with some difficulty. On the other hand, he sees a growing threat to the main communication line between Hanoi and Haiphong. In addition, French troop strength is inadequate to meet any new Viet Minh attacks on the defense perimeter and simultaneously to prevent infiltration of the delta.
4.	King of Thailand threatens abdication:
25X1A	The King of Thailand reportedly is threatening abdication in protest against the usurpation of his powers by the military clique which controls the government. The Chief of the Thai Air Force, states that 25X1 Thailand would become a republic if the King does not accept the 1932 Constitution as amended.
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	25X1A

Comment: Other reports indicate that the King is using the threat of abdication as a weapon in his controversy with government leaders over his constitutional powers and probably has no real intent of stepping down. Although veneration of the monarchy is widespread in Thailand, no effectively organized force has yet come forward to support the King in his struggle with the military leaders.

	NEAR EAST - AFRICA					
5.	Existence of Egyptian Cabinet depends on solution to Anglo-Egyptian dispute:					
25X1A	Amr Pasha, recently Egypt's Ambassado to London and now political adviser to Kin Farouk, believes that the government of Prime Minister Ali Maher will not last long unless progress is made toward solution of the Anglo-Egyptia dispute. He insists that discussions regarding the proposed Middle East Command will be in vain if Great Britain fails to recognize Farouk as King of the Sudan.					
	According to the American Ambassador in Cairo, while Amr Pasha recognizes social reform as the only adequate weapon against the spread of Communism in Egypt, he believes that reform in Egypt will not be possible until a solution of the Anglo-Egyptian problem is found. 25X1D					
05)/4	Comment:					
25X1	there is no indication that Britain is prepared					
25X1	to recognize the title recently assumed by King Farouk.					
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